



**F E D E R A L  
S T U D E N T A I D**

*We Help Put America Through School*

# **Business-Technology Alignment (BTA) Monthly Status Report**

**September 10, 2002  
through  
September 30, 2002**



## Support and Efforts

- The FSA Business-Technology Alignment (BTA) initiative provides for the following efforts:
  - Identify and research disruptive technologies, FSA enterprise project topics, and projects that have non-standard technical needs for the AWG agenda
  - Select, build and populate an FSA enterprise architecture support tool, to follow the modified Zachman framework
  - Maintain the Technology Policies, Standards and Products Guide, the Technology Infrastructure Blueprint document and TIB web site.



**Between September 10, 2002 and September 30, 2002 the Business-Technology Alignment (BTA) continued to make significant progress collecting the information to populate the EA tool.**

### **Activities: September 10, 2002 – September 30, 2002**

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#### **Architecture Working Group (AWG) Activities**

- Prepared for and conducted the AWG meeting scheduled for September 11.
- Presentations included an overview of the FSA Enterprise Architecture, a review of the FMS business case and a review of the Electronic Mass Mailing white paper
- Encouraged business channel representatives to bring their technical leads to future meetings.
- Followed up with each member to solicit any issues in their areas that could be addressed during the next meeting.
- It was decided that the AWG should be spelled out rather than using the acronym. Currently at FSA, the AWG means 'Administrative Wage Garnishment'.
- Confirmed Shirley Singleton' as a new member of the Architecture Working Group.

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#### **Architecture Support Group (ASG) Activities**

- The business channels requested additional time to send the Electronic Mass Mailing recommendations to their technical and business teams for review. The adoption of these recommendations is expected to be at the next meeting, scheduled for October 16.

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#### **Technology Policy, Standards and Products Guide**

- The Technology Policy, Standards and Products Guide was updated. Significant changes include minor version number changes and other architecture changes.



## Between September 10, 2002 and September 30, 2002 the Business-Technology Alignment (BTA) remained operational.

### Activities: September 10, 2002 – September 30, 2002 (continued)

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#### **Enterprise Architecture Tool**

- Verified the tool was fully operational using a comprehensive test script.
- Continued working with Popkin and FSA subject matter experts on collecting and validating the contents in the framework.
- Populated the data classes and lines of business
- Developed preliminary Conceptual Information Models and a Business Context diagram.

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#### **Framework Data Collection Methodology document**

- Completed documenting data collection methodology used to identify and collect content to be populated in the framework. This document includes the objectives, findings and outcomes of each meetings conducted.

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#### **GUI Guidelines/Web Style Guide for making documents accessible using a browser**

- Coordinated a meeting with the FSA Content Management area to communicate the GUI Guidelines/Web Style template and process to determine if there is possible use in this area.

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#### **Other Areas**

- As a result of recent FSA budget cuts, the FY'03 Business Case deliverable will be adjusted to cover a reduced scope of work.





## Issues and Risks.

**September 10, 2002 – September 30, 2002**

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### **Enterprise Architecture level of effort is still unknown**

- It is not known, at this point, the level of effort required to collect and categorize the artefacts. The areas that require additional research include ..... The first two rows are : Scope (contextual) and Enterprise Model (conceptual).
- A request for an updated copy of the Department of Education's modified Zachman framework went to Barry Stone on July 31. Updates to the framework were received August 8. No other updates for the framework have been received to date and the framework is frozen until the first phase has been formally accepted.



## Planned activities for next month

**October 1, 2002 – October 31, 2002**

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### **Architecture Working Group**

- Coordinate and conduct the October 16 meeting
- Possible topics include:
  - ✓ FSA Security and Privacy Policy from an Enterprise Perspective
  - ✓ Search Engine Update
  - ✓ Final Review of the Electronic Mass Mailing white paper

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### **Technology Infrastructure Blueprint (TIB) document**

- Survey the project teams for updates to their sections of the TIB
- Update the TIB document and web enabled version on the FSA net.

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### **Enterprise Architecture Tool**

- Continue collecting artefacts and populating the EA tool by meeting with key FSA personnel and by reviewing project deliverables.
- Meet with the Department of Education to plan out the next steps for transferring FSA data to the Department of Education..
- Developed an Enterprise Architecture Work Product Tracking Spreadsheet to track the contents and completeness of the framework content.



# Appendices

## Appendix I:

- Updated Project Plan for BTA Phase III
- AWG Meeting Materials for September
- FSA System Architect QA Test Results
- Technology Policy, Standards and Products Guide
- Enterprise Architecture Work Product Tracking Spreadsheet
- FSA Enterprise Architecture - HTML *(see enclosed CD)*